

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF GRAFTON
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING – MAY 8, 2017
WARRANT**

Worcester, ss:

To Any of the Constables of the Town of Grafton, in the County of Worcester

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Grafton, qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs, to meet in the Grafton High School Auditorium at the Grafton High School on Monday, the Eighth Day of May, 2017 at Seven O'clock PM (7:00PM) and act on the following articles, to wit:

ARTICLE 1. ADJUST FY17 BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds sums of money for the purpose of adjusting certain line items within the operating budget for FY17, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by: Town Administrator

ARTICLE 2. BALANCE FY17 SNOW & ICE ACCOUNT

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from free cash/stabilization/other various line items for the purposes of balancing the Snow & Ice Account, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by: Town Administrator

ARTICLE 3. PROPANE FACILITY EVACUATION PLAN

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer a sum of money for the purposes of funding the development of an evacuation plan to be used in the event of an emergency from the propane facility located on Westboro Road, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by: Town Administrator

ARTICLE 4. AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF PRIOR FISCAL YEAR BILLS

To see if the Town will vote to authorize payment of prior fiscal year bills from the Fiscal Year 2017 operating budget, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by: Town Administrator

ARTICLE 5. ASSESSORS CAMA SYSTEM CONVERSION

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Assessors expense budget \$24,000 to fund the Assessors conversion from CAMA to Vision Systems, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by: Town Administrator

ARTICLE 6. FUND FY17 UNEMPLOYMENT LIABILITY

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from available funds for the purposes of funding the Town's FY17 Unemployment Liability, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by: Town Administrator

ARTICLE 7. RESERVE FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$2,442 from the Community Preservation Undesignated Fund account for the purpose of correcting the CPA 10% set aside requirement, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by: Community Preservation Committee

ARTICLE 8. OPEN SPACE RESERVE

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$2,442 from the Community Preservation Undesignated Fund account for the purpose of correcting the CPA 10% set aside requirement, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by: Community Preservation Committee

ARTICLE 9. HISTORIC PRESERVATION RESERVE

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$2,442 from the Community Preservation Undesignated Fund account for the purpose of correcting the CPA 10% set aside requirement, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by: Community Preservation Committee

ARTICLE 10. LIBRARY COLUMN RESTORATION

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$10,708 from the Community Preservation Historic Preservation Reserve account for the purpose of restoring the four exterior columns located at the entrance of the Grafton Public Library.

Submitted by: Community Preservation Committee

ARTICLE 11. CONCERT ON THE COMMON

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money to fund the July 4th Concert on the Common, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by: Town Administrator

ARTICLE 12. SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell real property located at 105 Rear Westboro Road for private development, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by: Town Administrator

ARTICLE 13. WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY UPGRADE

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$690,402.74 from Sewer Retained Earning Account #25-440-145-3590 to fund the FY2018 Debt Service related to the Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade as voted in Article 15 of the October 20, 2014 Semi-Annual Town Meeting, or take any action relative thereto.

Submitted by: Board of Sewer Commissioners

ARTICLE 14. LEASE OF REAL PROPERTY

To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a long-term written lease with the highest qualified bidder, with options to extend for a period not to exceed thirty (30) years, for the purpose of constructing a cell tower and associated equipment and materials on a portion of the property owned by the Town of Grafton located at 21 Follette Street (Book 8947, Page 246); the written lease to include terms, conditions and limitations as the Selectmen deem necessary and proper, or take any action relative thereto.

Submitted by: Town Administrator

ARTICLE 15. CITIZENS PEITION - PIPELINE RESOLUTION ADOPTION

To see if the Town will vote to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, a high-pressure transmission gas pipeline currently called the West Boylston

Lateral of the Access Northeast Pipeline, proposed by Spectra/Enbridge Energy Corporation (Algonquin Gas Company, subsidiary), would run through Grafton, Massachusetts; and

WHEREAS said pipeline is not needed because:

The Massachusetts Attorney General's Office, in their Regional Electric Reliability Options study of November 2015, concluded that no additional pipeline has capacity is needed to meet electric reliability needs and would be more costly and environmentally destructive than investment in energy conservation measures and renewable energy solutions-a conclusion re-confirmed by Synapse Energy Economics in February 2017; and,

WHEREAS, said unnecessary pipeline will negatively impact Grafton because:

- High pressure pipelines inherently carry the potential for leaks, rupture or devastating explosion, causing untold damage to property and lives as well as added risks and damage to the health, environment, and personal safety of those living near the evacuation corridor, adversely affecting property values and residents' livelihoods, and
- The hydraulic fracturing (fracking) process uses vast amounts of water and 60 toxic chemicals, contaminating water supplies where fracking is done and carrying the potential to contaminate the water supply where a pipeline is in close proximity to a town's water supply, thus posing an unacceptable threat to public health; and
- The cost of said pipeline may require Massachusetts citizens to pay a utility bill tariff, making electric or gas ratepayers bear the financial burden for the endeavors of a private corporation; and

WHEREAS, the town seeks to protect Hassanamessit, a town-owned, and Land Trust lands, in addition to approximately 100 residential, school and business properties that abut the pipeline or lie within the pipeline's evacuation zone

WHEREAS, said pipeline goes against current Massachusetts commitments to renewable energies and combating global climate change (Massachusetts Global Warming Solution sAct of 2008; Massachusetts Omnibus Energy Act of 2016) and our state's energy challenges are better addressed through investment in energy conservation and green and renewable energy solutions;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the people of Grafton join over 50 Massachusetts towns that have recorded their opposition to new gas pipelines and record their opposition by asking the Board of Selectmen to declare that they:

- Oppose any effort to locate the West Boylston Lateral within Grafton's borders;
- Apply for Intervenor Status during the three-week period after Spectra/Enbridge files its application with FERC, and provide comments to FERC on behalf of the town;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk be directed to send a copy of this resolution to FERC, Spectra/Enbridge Energy, Algonquin Gas, the governor, the state attorney general, state and national representatives and senators.

Submitted by: Carol Sotiropolis

And you are directed to serve this Warrant by posting up an attested copy thereof in some conspicuous place in each of the precincts of the Town at least fourteen days before said meeting.

Hereof fail not and make due return of this Warrant, with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk, at the time and place of meeting as aforesaid.

Given under our hands this _____ day of April in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Seventeen.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

TOWN OF GRAFTON


Jennifer Thomas, Chairman


Bruce Spinney III, Vice Chairman


Sargon Hanna, Clerk


Craig Dauphinais


Brook Padgett

A TRUE COPY,
ATTEST:

April ____, 2017

I have complied with the requirements of the above Warrant and with the Town of Grafton By-Laws by posting an attest copy of the Warrant in some conspicuous place in each of the precincts of the town on the above date.

Constable of Grafton